

# Office of the Prime Minister

Prime Minister

Minister for National Security and Intelligence

Minister for Child Poverty Reduction

Minister Responsible for Ministerial Services

Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage



Peter Russell  
fyi-request-16930-9c5a0429@requests.fyi.org.nz

10 FEB 2022

Ref: PMO 2021-405

Dear Peter Russell

## Official Information Act request relating to vaccine side effects - follow up

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) request, received on 28 December 2021.

You requested:

*"I requested any and all advice received by the government regarding how public perception and concerns about potential or actual SARS-Cov-2/COVID-19 "vaccine" related side effects, adverse reactions, injuries and deaths can or should be managed.*

*Raj Nahna refused my request because information about New Zealanders' attitudes and public sentiment towards the COVID-19 "vaccine" is publicly available.*

*This is unacceptable because my request was not for information about New Zealanders' attitudes and public sentiment per se, but on how they could or should be managed.*

*Please provide the information required by my original request.*

*Original Request:*

*Please provide me with copies of any and all advice received by the government regarding how public perception and concerns about potential or actual SARS-Cov-2/COVID-19 "vaccine" related side effects, adverse reactions, injuries and deaths can or should be managed."*

As previously advised to you my letter ref: PMO 2021-250, the Prime Minister's Office does not hold any information on public perceptions of COVID-19 vaccines' side effects.

It was also advised in the same letter that information published by the Ministry of Health on a regular basis includes information on public attitudes to COVID-19. This information is publicly available on its website at: [www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-strategy-planning-insights/covid-19-vaccine-research-insights](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-strategy-planning-insights/covid-19-vaccine-research-insights).

I reiterate that the Prime Minister's Office does not hold any information on how the public's perceptions of COVID-19 vaccines should be managed. Accordingly, I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act, as the information does not exist.

I further note that additional documents relating to decisions about the Government's response to COVID-19 are publicly available on the Unite against COVID-19 website. You may wish to visit [www.covid19.govt.nz/about-our-covid-19-response/proactive-releases/](http://www.covid19.govt.nz/about-our-covid-19-response/proactive-releases/) if you require further information about the Government's response to COVID-19.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to investigate and review my decision under section 28(3) of the Act.

Yours sincerely



Raj Nahna  
**Chief of Staff**